

Title	Practice links [Issue 72, April 2017]
Publication date	2017-04
Original Citation	Burns, Kenneth ed., 2017, June, "Practice Links", [Online]. http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/
Type of publication	Other
Link to publisher's version	https://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/
Download date	2023-05-05 10:31:50
Item downloaded from	http://hdl.handle.net/10468/4428



Issue 72, April 2017

ISSN: 2009-776X

practice

LINKS



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Continuing professional development

Clár Éire Ildánach *Creative Ireland* Programme 2017 - 2022



The Creative Ireland Programme is an invitation to the entire country to get involved in something truly inspirational.

At its heart is collaboration – between central and local government, between culture and industry, between artists and policy makers – to facilitate an ecosystem of creativity.

The best way to nurture the creative imagination is through active engagement with arts and culture. Promoting creativity provides us with a strategy for individual wellbeing, social cohesion and economic success.

This all-of-government initiative is an ambitious plan, possibly one of the most important initiatives of our time. It calls on all of us to play a part in placing our rich cultural heritage, and its potential, at the centre of our lives.

Culture and creativity are the greatest assets of any society. It is our duty to do everything we can to unleash the full creative potential of our people. That is what this initiative is all about.

The Five Pillars of Creative Ireland:

1. Enabling the Creative Potential of Every Child
2. Enabling Creativity in Every Community
3. Investing in our Creative and Cultural Infrastructure
4. Ireland as a Centre of Excellence in Media Production
5. Unifying our Global Reputation

Year one of the programme outlines ten initiatives to be completed by the end of 2017 including a national plan to enable every child in Ireland to access tuition in music, drama, art and coding.

Creative Ireland's public workshops are now open

Open meetings are currently taking place across the country, inviting members of the general public, as well as representatives from all sectors of the local community, to join the discussion about how the Creative Ireland programme will enable creativity for all citizens.

Mon 10 April - Cavan More details to follow | tsullivan@cavancoco.ie

Mon 10 April - Leitrim More details to follow | mquinn@leirimcoco.ie

Tue 11 April - Meath More details to follow | cmangan@meathcoco.ie

Mon 24 April - Fingal More details to follow | eithne.mallin@fingal.ie

Tue 25 April - Tipperary More details to follow | roisin.ogrady@tipperarycoco.ie

Wed 26 April - Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown More details to follow | mowens@dlrcoco.ie

Tue 2 May - Cork City | Cork City Hall More details to follow | jean_brennan@corkcity.ie

TBC | Wicklow | isherwin@wicklowcoco.ie

TBC | Galway County | mndonohue@galwaycoco.ie

Click [here](#) for a downloadable .pdf of the programme

<http://creativeireland.ie>

Continuing professional development



The IASW are offering the CARE-Index Assessment training at a reduced rate to IASW members.

"I did the CARE-Index training in 2011. Overall the DMM training is probably the most relevant I have done in terms of Child Protection work. As a risk assessment tool it's been really helpful as I often found infancy more difficult to assess for risk and found it difficult to be explicit about the concerning behaviours I observed. The CARE- Index takes a child development perspective, which fits coherently with social work observations and assessments. Having this understanding makes it easier to be explicit with parents and carers also, both in understanding their child's behaviours and offering interventions that will support more sensitive caregiving. The CARE- Index also gave me a really good foundation for understanding the formation of the attachment relationship in the early years, and a way to understand the parent's strategies as well as the child's. Though I obviously don't use the formal assessment on every case, I use the observation skills and the concepts of the attachment strategies all the time."

Social Work Team Leader (Ireland)

The Infant Care Index is the simplest and most versatile of the Dynamic Maturational Model of Attachment and Adaptation (DMM)'s assessments of attachment. It allows social workers to assess the quality of the relationship between carer and infant and identify risk to the relationship and so provide an opportunity for early intervention.

The assessment is ideal for those working with infants in a child protection, assessment or an early intervention setting, as it provides opportunities to intervene where needed in a precise and focused way, using a reliable and measurable risk assessment tool which can then be re-applied to assess the success of the intervention. Professionals who attain a reliable enough standard of coding these assessments can also rely on these in court.

This training is offered at a **reduced rate of €1,085 to IASW members only** (usual cost €1,200 - €1,400) to include: all teaching, manual, reliability test, refreshments and lunch.

Week 1: March 29th – 31st 2017

Week 2: April 19th – 21st 2017

Week 3: May 23rd – 25th 2017

Venue: Education and Research Centre, Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's X, Dublin

To secure your place on the training you can pay a non-refundable deposit of €200 by clicking on the green **Pay Now** button on the event page at www.iasw.ie. If you wish to secure a place on the training, please note that **the deadline for receipt of a deposit is Friday, 17th February**.

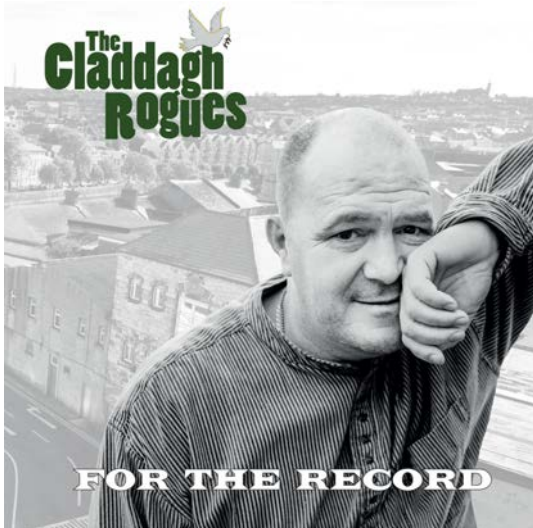
The balance for the course can be paid in two instalments by cheque, postal order or bank draft. Please contact cpdofficer@iasw.ie with any queries.

For further details please visit the event page at www.iasw.ie

Mental health and the arts

“Mental health is everyone’s business.”

The creative arts are hugely valuable for expressing the complexities around mental health difficulties



The Claddagh Rogues were born out of Cork’s Simon Community. The group has released two EPs and its first album, ***For the Record***, was launched at the First Fortnight Festival in January 2017 with guest performer John Spillane.

James (pictured), lead singer and songwriter with The Claddagh Rogues, spent most of his early life in prison, under psychiatric care and homeless on the streets of Cork. Fellow Claddagh Rogues founder member and lead vocalist, Mags Kelly, experienced addiction and homelessness. The new album pays tribute to Mags, who passed away in 2014, aged just 44.

James and Mags formed The Claddagh Rogues during an artist-in-residence project at the Cork Simon Community in 2007, led by musician and clinical nurse, Kevin O’Shanahan, who specialises in mental health and the arts for Cork’s mental health services. Kevin, who plays and writes with the band, said a project designed to explore creativity and build confidence and self-esteem has grown to be so much more: ‘*The group’s writing has the energy and vibrancy of*

life on the edge. It has been a privilege to work with people who have experienced and overcome a lot of pain in life and see how much music and the opportunity for creative expression means and helps people cope with challenges like addiction.’

In 2017 & 2018, The Claddagh Rogues will bring ***For the Record*** on tour in Ireland & the UK.

Confirmed Dates

The Claddagh Rogues in performance & conversation:

- Thursday **April 6th at 6pm**
CIT Cork School of Music in the Foyer as part of **Cork Lifelong Learning Festival**
- Thursday **May 4th at 7.30pm**
The Fig & Olive, Clonakilty as part of **Clonakilty Wellness Week**
- **Mental Health Month // Oct 2017**
Irish Tour in celebration of **World Mental Health Day on 10 October**
The Claddagh Rogues will be hitting the road in October, with songs that speak honestly of mental health difficulties, bringing their story of recovery and hope to audiences around Ireland.

There are a variety of tour packages including an **Acoustic Session & Talk** and a **Multimedia Exhibition** for more details contact:

kevin@musicalive.ie

For the Record is available to preview/download here:

thecladdaghrogues.bandcamp.com

[The Claddagh Rogues on Facebook](#)

The Claddagh Rogues are supported by **HSE South’s Cork Arts and Health Programme**, **Cork City Arts Office**, **Cork Mental Health Services** and **MusicAlive**.



WHA! Annual Conference, 21-22 April 2017, National University of Ireland Galway

The annual Women's History Association of Ireland conference will be held in **National University of Ireland Galway from the 21-22 April 2017**. The theme for this year will be '**Gender and Class in Ireland**'. Papers are encouraged from a wide range of time periods from the island of Ireland. While the growth in women's history, gender history and feminist history in Ireland and internationally from the 1970s led to key debates on the merits of each approach, this conference seeks to further address the importance of

gender and class to women's history.

Organised in conjunction with the Irish Centre for the Histories of Labour and Class (ICHL) located in NUI Galway, confirmed keynote speakers include:

- Professor Carolyn Steedman, University of Warwick. Author of *An Everyday Life of the English Working Class: Work, Self, and Sociability in the Early Nineteenth Century*.
- Professor Marie-Louise Coolahan, National University of Ireland Galway. Author of *Women, Writing, and Language in Early Modern Ireland*.
- Dr Caitríona Clear, National University of Ireland Galway. Author of *Women's Voices in Ireland: women's magazines in the 1950s and 60s*.
- Dr Seán Brady, Birkbeck University of London. Author of *Masculinity and Male Homosexuality in Britain, 1861 – 1913*.
- Dr Lindsey Earner-Byrne, University College Dublin. Author of *Mother and Child: Maternity and Child Welfare in Dublin, 1922-1960*.

Suggested themes include, but are not limited to, the following:

Women and paid/unpaid work; sexuality and sexual behaviour; women within the home; education; politics; feminism; women and trade unionism; philanthropy and activism; migration; masculinity & masculinities; deviancy and criminality; religion; family life across the class spectrum; debates on women's history, gender history and feminist history; experiencing and resisting poverty; institutionalisation of children and adults; representations of class and gender in autobiography, literature and art; digital history; and transnational classes.

Abstracts (up to 250 words) and a short bio should be sent to sarahanne.buckley@nuigalway.ie on or before 20 January 2017. For further information and updates about the conference see <http://womenshistoryassociation.com>. Follow us on Twitter @WHAireland

Continuing professional development

LUDI – Play for Children with Disabilities launches its first Training School



You will have the occasion to learn:

- how to play with children with disabilities of different ages
- how many types of play you can play with them
- how to choose the most usable toys for them
- how to modify toys so that they can be used by the widest population of children, playing altogether, regardless of their abilities
- which kind of toys – high and low tech – have been developed that are accessible for children with disabilities and how to find them
- and much more on the topic of play for children with disabilities!

Thanks to an engaging methodology with multidisciplinary lessons mixed up with hands-on activities in small groups and a continuous exchange of ideas and impressions along the four days, you will have the opportunity.

- to take part to one of the most original training experiences in your life
- to actively reflect to a brand new topic in science, education and rehabilitation
- to acquire new perspectives on the world and the life of children with disabilities
- to learn a new know-how which concerns the objects around us, how we choose and use them
- to acknowledge that children with disabilities are first and above all children with a great need and wish to play!!!

Venue: Zuyd University of Applied Sciences
www.ludi-network.eu/training_school
Application is open until February 20th 2017





IASW National Social Work Conference & AGM 2017

12th May 2017 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Northgate Street Co. Westmeath, Athlone

We're delighted to announce that Gillian Ruch, University of Sussex has been confirmed as keynote speaker. **Gillian Ruch** is Professor of Social Work and works in the Department of Social Work and Social Care at the University of Sussex and the Tavistock Centre, London. She teaches and researches in the areas of child care social work and relationship-based and reflective practice and is committed to enhancing the wellbeing of children, families and practitioners. Her particular interests are in promoting psycho-social research methods and reflective forums that facilitate relationship-based practice. She has recently co-edited with colleagues Ruch, G., Turney, D. and Ward, A. (2010) *Relationship-based Social Work: Getting to the Heart of Practice*, London: Jessica Kingsley.

Relationship-based practice and management, as well as reflective practice are two areas that IASW members continually ask to know more about. We hope that the conference will provide a forum for the professional development of participants, building professional confidence and identity. The conference aims to provide a forum to support participants to reflect on their practice and on the organisational and wider contexts impacting on social work practice. Key areas for consideration include:

- The need to build reflective capabilities in order to develop the professional self
- How will you support yourself/ your team/ your organisation to be reflective practitioners?

Further details will be made available on www.iasw.ie

CO-DEPENDENCY, NARCISSISM & ADDICTION – WHAT’S THE LINK? (... 95% of your clients are affected!)

(14 CPD points)

“Co-dependency as a condition is often misunderstood - and its crucial link with narcissism and addiction missed by many helping professionals. As 95% of clients are affected, this is a detrimental loss. However, experience shows that when the co-dependent realises how co-dependency, narcissism and addiction feed into each other, they then fully understand how to take their power back! Our job as helping professionals is to help them see that. Through my work I have developed a helpful model that addresses this triad and it is my client’s experience (young and old) that the model works. Now, your clients can benefit too!”

- Margaret Parkes

Programme Outline:

This intensive and experiential programme is based around a therapeutic model for working with co-dependent adults and young people who come from an emotionally abusive and neglectful family of origin. It also highlights how co-dependency can be central to many addictions. Being goal focused, this model encourages the helping professional to take an interactive role - (check www.margaretparkes.ie for more information).

Facilitator:

Margaret Parkes (Dip. Psych., BA, MSc.) has practiced as a psychotherapist and systemic practitioner for over 15 years. She is a qualified and experienced facilitator and has experienced significant success with this model.

Course Dates & Times:

Galway, 4th & 5th May 2017, Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway

Dublin, 11th & 12th May 2017, Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, (Exit IA) Naas Rd. Dublin

Course Fee: €195.00 Early Bird 180.00

10.00am – 5.00pm each day

Booking:

Email: margaretparkes.ie OR [BOOK HERE](#)

Continuing professional development



DEVELOPMENTAL TRAUMA

An interpersonal neurobiological approach to transforming developmental trauma into integration & resiliency.



Speaker:
Dr. Dan Siegel

16th - 17th May 2017
Cork International Hotel,
Cork Airport Business Park

Contact:
087 109 1195
info@pcpsi.ie

To book your place visit: www.pcpsi.ie/shop



NCSPVA 3rd Annual Conference & Lynda Bellingham Memorial Lecture

The Impact of Violence and Abuse on Children and Young People
5 - 6 June 2017, University of Worcester

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We are inviting abstracts for oral presentations of no longer than 20 minutes, or poster presentations to be presented by either academics or practitioners from all disciplines, that examine issues concerning childhood and violence and abuse. Example topics might include child to parent violence, intergenerational risk, the role of disrupted attachment in abuse cycles, resilience to childhood violence and abuse, sibling violence, violent offending across the lifespan, the voice of the child in policy. The proposed presentations should reflect either completed or ongoing research, present the application of research to practice, or present the outcome of innovative practice tied to this broad theme.

Presenters should specify:

Title: Title of Abstract

Speaker: Name, Title, Affiliation, Contact details and whether scientist or practitioner or both

Abstract: No more than 250 words providing background and justification for the paper, methods used, main findings and implications for theory and/or practice.

Paper format: Oral presentation or poster presentation (posters will be presented on day 1 of the conference).
Posters must be A1 in size.

Abstracts should be submitted to: ncspva@worc.ac.uk

Deadline for abstracts: 31 March 2017, 23.59.



Continuing professional development



“The Irish Association of Social Workers and partners have been successful in securing Ireland as the next venue for the joint global ***Social Work, Education and Social Development conference from 4-7 July 2018***. The International Federation of Social Workers, the International Schools of Social Work and the International Council on Social Welfare signed the contract for this conference last week during the 2016 joint global conference held in Seoul, South Korea.

The local organising committee here comprises members of the IASW, the Schools of Social work in UCD, TCD, UCC and NUIG and the European Anti-Poverty Network Dublin office.

The conference theme is: ***Environmental and Community Sustainability: Human Solutions in Evolving Societies***.

This exciting, unique and important event will bring together upwards of 2500 social work practitioners, educators and policy workers from across the world. It is our intention to also invite user groups and community groups to participate in the conference programme.

In shaping the structure of the conference programme, the local organising committee will focus on the United Nation's *Sustainable Development Goals 2015-2030*. Ban Ki Moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his address to the 2016 Global Conference in Seoul last week, spoke about the importance of these goals in helping to ensure ‘that no one is left behind’. For me, the core of social work is about helping to ensure that those who are vulnerable are supported in their journey so that they are not left behind.

Topics will include poverty and quality of life, social justice, rights and equality, community development, climate change and sustainable environments. We plan to have a programme where all those attending the conference can engage in meaningful dialogue about practice, education and policy relating to these issues and can leave a rich legacy.

Register your name and email to keep updated with details of SWSD 2018 at <http://www.swsd2018.org/>
Ongoing updates will also be provided through social media www.facebook.com/SWSDOfficial and <https://twitter.com/SWSDOfficial>”

Continuing professional development

Training for Social Workers/Potential Practice Teachers

7th and 8th September 2017 in UCC

Ruth Murray, Fieldwork Coordinator in the School of Applied Social Studies, is organising the annual two days Fieldwork Workshop Training in UCC on Thursday and Friday 7th and 8th September. It will include presentations by a number of staff within the School of Applied Social Studies, outside practitioners and former students. It is aimed at social workers who may be considering supervising students in the future or social workers who have not taken students for a while and wish to have their supervision skills refreshed. The two days are free. It is hoped the topics being covered will be:

- Promoting Reflective Engagement by Student Social Workers –The Practice Teacher’s Role
- Understanding Competency and Diversity in Practice Teaching when Responding to Varying Student Needs and the Transition from Classroom Learning to Placement
- Keeping CORU Proficiencies to the fore while supervising students
- Background to MSW and BSW Social Work Programmes and Expectations of Critical Learning Incidents as written by students and feedback on them by Practice Teachers
- Writing Reports on Students, mid-way and final placement reports
- Social Media Use and Implications for Practice Placements and Portfolios

There is an expectation that those attending will be available to take a student in January or September 2018.

In previous years, this has been an accredited IASW event. We intend to apply for accreditation for this year’s event also.

If interested phone Ruth at 021 4903954 for a brochure and/or application form or email her at r.murray@ucc.ie

If Ruth is unavailable, please phone Jackie Connolly (mornings only, Monday to Thursday) at 021 4903546 or email Jackie at: j.connolly@ucc.ie

Places will be limited to 30 so early booking is advised as this training has been booked out early in previous years. <http://appsoc.ucc.ie> Twitter: @UCCAppSoc



Continuing professional development



The International Stillbirth Alliance Annual Conference 22-24th September 2017

Venue

University College Cork, Ireland

The Conference will take place over two days, Saturday and Sunday, with a mixture of plenary and concurrent sessions from invited speakers and selected presentations from conference abstracts

Pre conference workshops will be held on Friday 22nd of September followed by the ISA Official Opening Ceremony & Welcome Reception



Confirmed Speakers:

Professor Fran Boyle

The University of Queensland, Australia

Dr Molly Byrne

National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland

Professor Alan Cameron

University of Glasgow, Scotland

Dr Myra Cullinane

Dublin District Coroner, Ireland

Professor Jane Dahlstrom

The Australian National University

Dr Mary Devins

Our lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin, Ireland

Professor Soo Downe

University of Central Lancashire, UK

Professor Elizabeth Draper

University of Leicester, United Kingdom

Professor Richard Greene

National Perinatal Epidemiology Centre,
Ireland

Dr Alexander Heazell

The University of Manchester, UK

Professor Mary Higgins

University College Dublin, Ireland

Professor Stephen Kennedy

University of Oxford, UK

Professor Louise Kenny

INFANT, Ireland

Professor Joan Lalor

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Professor Stephen Liben

McGill University, Canada

Professor Fergal Malone

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Dr Tracy Mills

The University of Manchester, UK

Mr Bryan Nolan

Irish Hospice Foundation

Professor Michael Turner

University College Dublin, Ireland

Dr Jane Warland

University of South Australia

Ms Aleena Wojcieszek

The University of Queensland, Australia

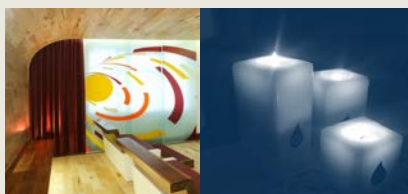
KEY DATES

Abstract submission

January 19—April 21st 2017

Early bird registration deadline

2nd June 2017



Contact

Website: www.isacork2017.com

Email: isa2017@abbey.ie

Twitter: [@isacork2017](https://twitter.com/isacork2017)



<http://www.isacork2017.com/>

Continuing professional development

6th National Child Protection and Welfare Social Work Conference

University College Cork, 27th October 2017



Child protection and welfare in Ireland is heading into a series of significant changes in the next 12-36 months: the introduction of mandatory reporting, the implementation of the NCCIS software system, the adoption of a new national approach to practice in child protection and welfare in Tusla, the mainstreaming of prevention and family support (PPFS), more separated children fleeing from conflict, a new edition of Children First, a proposed review of the Child Care Act 1991, and it is anticipated that there will be new legislation in the areas of adoption, domestic abuse and online safety. Are all of these changes bringing child protection and welfare in the right direction and why? Will there be opportunities for more relationship and social action-based social work as a result of these changes? What good practice innovations are taking place? What ideas and opinions do you have on these changes and the future direction of child protection and welfare?

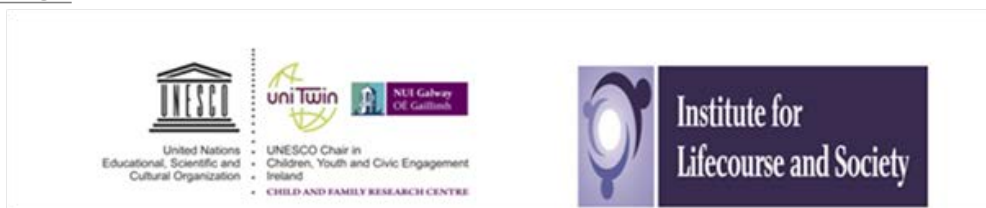
<http://swconf.ucc.ie>

UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre 8th Biennial International Conference

8th & 9th June 2017. Institute for Life-course and Society

Rediscovering Empathy; Values, Relationships and Practice in a Changing World

Across the globe, the perceived decline in empathy, care and social solidarity is a cause for concern. Empathy is the ability and/or inclination to understand and experience another's state or condition and, where appropriate, to respond through supportive actions. Research has shown that empathy in individuals is essential to healthy social and emotional functioning and contributes to the enrichment of civic society. Conversely, where levels of empathy are compromised, studies have found an increased propensity to engage in anti-social behaviour, such as bullying, aggression and offending behaviour. For practitioners, empathy in direct relationship-based working is increasingly recognised as a cornerstone of good practice in work with children, young people and their families, while for society, there is an urgent need for empathy informed policy and action to address structural inequalities and disparities. The biennial UCFRC conference draws on national and international expertise to explore the concepts of empathy and relationship based working as they relate to policy and practice with children, youth and families. <http://www.conference.ie/Conferences/index.asp?Conference=491>





National Programme for Screening and Brief Interventions (SBI) for Problem Alcohol & Drug Use - One Day Course

Aim

This course aims to prepare nurses, midwives, health and social care professionals to implement Screening and Brief Interventions (SBI) for problem substance misuse.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, participants should be able to:

- Critically discuss problem alcohol and drug use as it impacts on their current work or area of practice
- Demonstrate an enhanced knowledge and awareness of contemporary models of screening and brief intervention for problem alcohol and drug use
- Identify problem alcohol and drug users who present to health and social care settings
- Utilise the SAOR model of Screening & Brief Intervention (SBI) in practice based scenarios
- Discuss the application of the SAOR model of screening and brief intervention for problem alcohol and drug use into their practice

Course Content

The key course content which emerges from the course learning outcomes is outlined below:

- Evidence for the effectiveness of SBI.
- Alcohol and drug related presentations to health and social care settings.
- Contemporary models of SBI for problem alcohol and drug use.
- Overview of the SAOR model of intervention for problem alcohol and drug use.
- Establishing a supportive working relationship with the service users.
- Asking about alcohol and drug use and screening for alcohol and drug related problems.
- Delivering a structured brief intervention based upon the SAOR model.
- Developing appropriate care pathways for service users and arranging appropriate follow up.
- Accessing useful links and reference materials for further reading and research.

Target Groups

The primary target audience is nurses, midwives and allied health and social care professionals who are in a position to offer Screening and Brief Interventions to service users presenting with problem alcohol and drug use.

Training will take place in the last quarter of 2017

If you are interested in this course please request an application form: marwin.jagoe@hse.ie

Continuing professional development

Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Fieldwork Practice and Supervision (Social Work)

On-line applications through the Centre for Adult Continuing Education, UCC will open at the end of April for the **Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Fieldwork Practice and Supervision (Social Work)** in the School of Applied Social Studies, UCC. Check the ACE website for details: <http://www.ucc.ie/en/ace/> . If you are keen to get a hard copy application form in the meantime, please email Julianne Moynihan, ACE, UCC: j.moynihan@ucc.ie.

Entry Requirements:

- Qualification of :CQSW/NQSW Certification/Registered with CORU.
- 2yrs post qualifying experience.
- Written Permission of employing agency.
- Agreement to take a student on placement from January to April while on the course.
- Previous supervision of at least one professional social work student.
- A commitment to attend sessions held in Cork every second Friday approximately, from late September until early May of the following year. Dates in Cork are set out well in advance.

Year 2 (optional): To progress to the MA in year 2, participants must have successfully completed the Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Fieldwork Practice and Supervision [Social Work].



Professional Certificate in Children and Loss (Level 9)

The Irish Hospice Foundation in association with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

2017/2018



When a child experiences loss, either through death or a parental separation, their needs are often misunderstood or overlooked. Because children may express their grief in ways that are different to adults their reactions may go unrecognised. This Professional Certificate course seeks to equip practitioners with the necessary skills to understand and support children on their grief journey.



http://www.rcsi.ie/cat_course_detail.jsp?n=2140&p=2123&itemID=13

New publications and policy reports

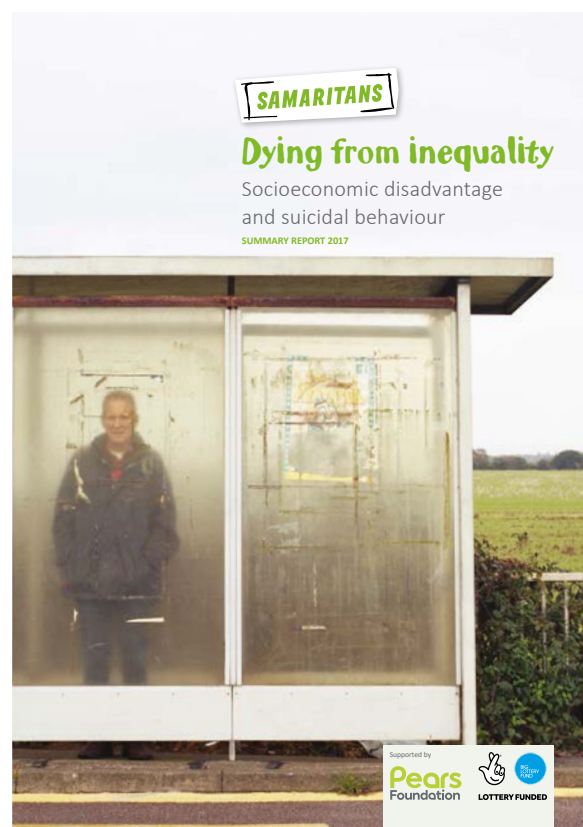
Dying from inequality: socioeconomic disadvantage and suicidal behaviour

Living in poverty shouldn't mean losing your life. Going through difficult times, like losing your job or being in debt, shouldn't mean not wanting to live. But that is what's happening in the UK and Ireland today. Suicide is killing the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people, devastating families and communities. This report by Samaritans, in collaboration with leading academics, reveals why.

Since the economic recession in 2008, the UK and Ireland have experienced economic change which has been felt across our communities. The effect on people has been wide-ranging and long-lasting, often well beyond the economic recovery period. Samaritans commissioned this report to ensure a better understanding about the association between socioeconomic disadvantage and suicidal behaviour and what can be done.

Our vision is that fewer people die by suicide. With our free, confidential helpline open all day, every day for anyone struggling to cope, and our work in a whole range of different settings, including prisons, schools, hospitals and job centres, we work hard to reach everybody who needs us. But this isn't enough. We won't reduce suicide by the provision of our services alone. We need governments and other agencies to take action to tackle the injustice of suicide. Effective collaboration across central and local government and all the local agencies which play a role will be crucial. This must include welfare, education, housing, employment, health and finance. Improving the lives of people from lower income groups will save lives and untold costs for families, communities, workplaces and the economy.

Suicide is preventable. It will take all our efforts, wherever we are, to make sure that we reach those who are struggling to cope and most in need of our support. While looking at the research in this area, we must remember that, behind the figures, there are individuals who have left behind a family and community affected by their loss. By taking action together, we can stop people dying.



New publications and policy reports

A critical and maternal narrative approach to practice, enhancing recognition and solidarity with ambivalent representations.

This is a conceptual paper that uses a critical practice approach to how a social worker's interpretive lens may transform after they become a parent. With a composite case example, I reflect on my own biographical maternal narrative, which aims to enhance the recognition and solidarity with ambivalent representations in the journey of motherhood. I conceptualise maternal narratives with Fook's critical approaches to practice framework (2016). I interweave a composite case example that I had direct experience and privilege of working with, along with my own biographical experience of mothering. The central themes that have emerged from my critical reflective analysis are; ambivalence, imperfection and guilt. This open ended inquiry outlines a new way of knowing. The primary data are biographical. For the purpose of this critical reflective article I am a mother, and hence I refer to my gendered experience. The article attempts to explore how my social work practice is afforded a new interpretative lens and reconstruction after my own transition into motherhood.

Keywords: critical approaches to social work practice; ambiguous representations in maternal narratives; biographical method; child protection social work

To cite this article: Carol McGinty (2017): A critical and Maternal Narrative Approach to Practice, Enhancing Recognition and Solidarity with Ambivalent Representations, Practice, DOI: 10.1080/09503153.2017.1294151 To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09503153.2017.1294151>

PRACTICE: SOCIAL WORK IN ACTION, 2017

A Critical and Maternal Narrative Approach to Practice, Enhancing Recognition and Solidarity with Ambivalent Representations

Carol McGinty

This is a conceptual paper that uses a critical practice approach to how a social worker's interpretive lens may transform after they become a parent. With a composite case example, I reflect on my own biographical maternal narrative, which aims to enhance the recognition and solidarity with ambivalent representations in the journey of motherhood. I conceptualise maternal narratives with Fook's critical approaches to practice framework (2016). I interweave a composite case example that I had direct experience and privilege of working with, along with my own biographical experience of mothering. The central themes that have emerged from my critical reflective analysis are; ambivalence, imperfection and guilt. This open ended inquiry outlines a new way of knowing. The primary data are biographical. For the purpose of this critical reflective article I am a mother, and hence I refer to my gendered experience. The article attempts to explore how my social work practice is afforded a new interpretative lens and reconstruction after my own transition into motherhood.

Keywords: critical approaches to social work practice; ambiguous representations in maternal narratives; biographical method; child protection social work

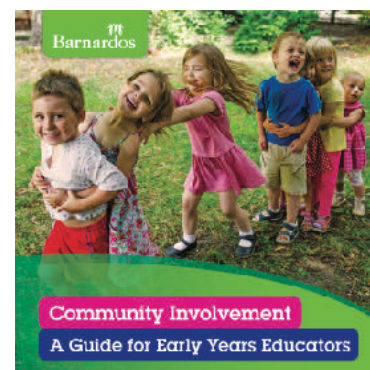
Introduction

In conceptualising maternal representations, I reflect on a social work composite case study, biographical data and relevant literature. In this critical reflective analysis, the overarching themes of ambivalence, imperfection and guilt emerged. These three complex themes are explored in an in depth way using Fook's critical approaches to practice framework (2016). This critical analysis aims to reflect and expose the normality of these representations, in order to develop our recognition and solidarity with our social work clients, who are engaged in the maternal care of infants and small children.

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09503153.2017.1294151>

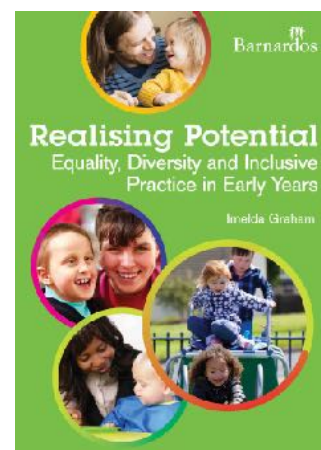
Community Involvement: A Guide for Early Years Educators

This free booklet outlines the benefits of community involvement for young children in early years settings and addresses some of the practical approaches that you, as an educator, can implement within your service. You can [download this booklet here from the Barnardos website](http://shop.barnardos.ie/publications/4326-ebook-community-involvement-a-guide-for-early-years-educators.html) or order hard copies from resources@barnardos.ie <http://shop.barnardos.ie/publications/4326-ebook-community-involvement-a-guide-for-early-years-educators.html>



Realising Potential: Equality, Diversity and Inclusive Practice in Early Years

This book seeks to challenge, to inform and to support early years educators in addressing equality, diversity and inclusion issues. Through this book, educators will find support and tools to develop high quality inclusive practices that will endure in the lives of the children with whom they work. [Buy this book online from Barnardos website.](http://shop.barnardos.ie/publications/3698-realising-potential-equality-diversity-and-inclusive-practice-in-early-years.html) <http://shop.barnardos.ie/publications/3698-realising-potential-equality-diversity-and-inclusive-practice-in-early-years.html>



Young C, Hall AM, Gonçalves-Bradley DC, Quinn TJ, Hooft L, van Munster BC, Stott DJ (2017)

Plain language summary

Home or foster home alternatives to institutional long-term care for functionally dependent older people

What is the aim of this review?

The aim of this Cochrane Review was to assess the effects of home or foster home alternatives to institutional care for older people who depend on others for their care.

Key messages

The studies included different participants and healthcare settings, as well as different interventions. Some of the studies were poorly conducted, which means we have to be careful when interpreting our results.

At present, there is insufficient evidence to support recommendations for home-based alternatives to institutional long-term care for frail older people.

What we studied in the review

In many countries, frail older adults with different illnesses may receive long-term care in nursing homes or other institutions. Due to the increasing number of older adults and the costs associated with care homes, other ways of providing care are necessary, including extra care in a person's own home. We assessed studies that provided care at home versus care in an institution.

What are the main results of the review?

We included 10 studies that took place in five different countries (USA, Taiwan, Sweden, the UK, and Canada). The studies included 16,377 older people thought to be in need of care services. All studies compared some form of home care setting with long-term institutional care. Most studies involved people with several different conditions, with the exception of one study that only included participants who had a stroke.

We are uncertain whether long-term home care compared to nursing home care decreases the risk of mortality or hospital admission as the evidence was very low-certainty. Likewise, we are uncertain whether the intervention increases physical function or quality of life, as again the evidence was considered to be low-certainty. We could not find papers that reported adverse health outcomes.

How up-to-date is this review?

The review authors searched for studies that had been published up to November 2015.

In-depth report and results: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD009844.pub2/abstract>

Martin Bøg, Trine Filges, Lars Brännström,
Anne-Marie Klint Jørgensen and
Maja Karrman Fredriksson (2017)



12-step programs for reducing illicit drug use are neither better nor worse than other interventions

Illicit drug abuse has serious and far-reaching implications for the abuser, their family members, friends, and society as a whole. Preferred intervention programs are those that effectively reduce illicit drug use and its negative consequences, and are cost-effective as well. Current evidence shows that overall, 12-step programs are just as effective as alternative, psychosocial interventions. The costs of programs are, therefore, an important consideration. However, the strength of the studies is weak and further evidence regarding the effectiveness of 12-step programs is needed.

What did the review study?

Illicit drug abuse is a globally recognised problem leading to high human, social and economic costs.

The 12-step program, modelled on the approach of Alcoholics Anonymous and adopted by Narcotics Anonymous and others, aims for complete abstinence. The 12-step approach is used both by self-help groups and for professional treatment called Twelve Step Facilitation (TSF).

This review examines the effectiveness of 12-step programs in reducing the use of illicit drugs. Secondary outcomes considered are on criminal behaviour, prostitution, psychiatric symptoms, social functioning, employment status, homelessness, and treatment retention.

What studies are included?

Included studies assess 12-step interventions for participants with illicit drug dependence using randomized controlled trials and quasi-experimental studies. Study populations are participants who have used one or more types of illicit drugs, regardless of gender and ethnic background.

A total of 10 studies consisting of 1,071 participants are included in the final evaluation. Nine of the studies were conducted in the United States, and one in the United Kingdom. The studies compare the 12-step program to alternative interventions. Nine studies were included in meta-analysis.

What are the main results in this review?

There is no difference in the effectiveness of 12-step interventions compared to alternative psychosocial interventions in reducing drug use during treatment, post treatment, and at 6- and 12-month follow-ups. 12-step programs combined with additional treatment did have a significant effect at 6-month follow-up, but this finding is based on few studies and is not found at 12-month follow-up.

There is some evidence that 12-step programs retain fewer of their participants than other programs, but the evidence has shortcomings. No effect was found on other secondary outcomes.

What do the findings in this review mean?

The main evidence presented in this review suggests that 12-step programs for reducing illicit drug use are neither better nor worse than other interventions. This conclusion should be read with caution given the weakness of the evidence from the studies. The power to detect a difference between the 12-step interventions and alternative psychosocial interventions was low and the estimated effect sizes were small. Many studies failed to adjust for the fact that the intervention is administered to groups, and so may overestimate effects. Given all these shortcomings, further evidence regarding the effectiveness of this type of intervention, especially in self-help groups, is needed.

How up to date is this review?

The review authors searched for studies published until September 2016. This Campbell Systematic Review was published in February 2017.

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Campbell Collaboration

The Campbell Collaboration (C2) helps people make well-informed decisions by preparing, maintaining and disseminating systematic reviews in education, crime and justice, and social welfare. Access to the database in the Republic of Ireland is free as the government of Ireland has purchased a license. <http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/>

Cochrane Collaboration

The Cochrane Collaboration, established in 1993, is an international network of more than 28,000 dedicated people from over 100 countries. We work together to help health care providers, policy makers, patients, their advocates and carers, make well-informed decisions about health care, based on the best available research evidence, by preparing, updating and promoting the accessibility of [Cochrane Reviews](#). Our work is internationally recognised as the benchmark for high quality information about the [effectiveness](#) of health care. <http://www.cochrane.org/>

Practice signposts are permanent pages that will appear in every edition of *Practice Links*. The aim of these pages is to provide signposts to high quality, research-informed databases. Some of the databases at a quick glance may seem too medical/health orientated, but also contain great resources to support social work and social care practice also.

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) – NHS UK

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) provides guidance, sets quality standards and manages a national database to improve people's health and prevent and treat ill health. <http://www.nice.org.uk/> . Videocasts: <http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/videocasts/videocasts.jsp>. Podcasts: <http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/podcasts/index.jsp>

Health Intelligence Unit (HSE)

Health Intelligence is part of the Quality and Clinical Care Directorate within the Health Service Executive and is responsible for capturing and utilising knowledge to support decision-making to improve the health of the population. Website has links to HSE research, databases, facts (census etc.), publications and using evidence effectively. http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/Population_Health/Health_Intelligence/

Evidence in Health and Social Care (NHS)

NHS Evidence is a service that enables access to authoritative clinical and non-clinical evidence and best practice through a web-based portal. It helps people from across the NHS, public health and social care sectors to make better decisions as a result. NHS Evidence is managed by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). <http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/>

HRB National Drugs Library

The HRB National Drugs Library is an information resource that supports those working to develop the knowledge base around drug, alcohol and tobacco use in Ireland. The library is funded by the Department of Health, and based within the Health Research Board. We have a range of services and resources designed to provide the evidence needed for practice and CPD. In particular, see the social worker page on our online practitioner resource.

<http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/>

Drugs.ie

Drugs.ie is an independent website managed by [The Ana Liffey Drug Project](#). Drugs.ie's mission is to help individuals, families and communities prevent and/or address problems arising from drug and alcohol use.

<http://www.drugs.ie/>

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) improves the lives of people who use care services by sharing knowledge about what works. We are an independent charity working with adults, families and children's social care and social work services across the UK. We also work closely with related services such as health care and housing. We gather and analyse knowledge about what works and translate that knowledge into practical resources, learning materials and services. Our work helps to improve the knowledge and skills of those working in care services. This includes managers, frontline staff, commissioners and trainers. People and their families who use these services also use our resources. All of our work is developed in collaboration with experts - including people who use care services and their carers. <http://www.scie.org.uk/>

Decision Map.ie

DecisionMap.ie, the new online decision-support tool developed by Ordnance Survey Ireland and Twelve Horses. DecisionMap, currently in beta test release, combines digital mapping from Ordnance Survey Ireland, with visualisation and web delivery tools developed by Twelve Horses, and statistical data provided by the Central Statistics Office and others. It aims to provide decision makers in the public and private sectors instant access to easily-consumable, spatially-referenced data about Ireland. <http://decisionmap.ie/>

Growing Up in Ireland

Growing Up in Ireland is a national study of children. It is the most significant of its kind ever to take place in this country and will help us to improve our understanding of all aspects of children and their development.

The study will take place over seven years and follow the progress of two groups of children; 8500 nine-year-olds and 11,000 nine-month-olds. During this time we will carry out two rounds of research with each group of children.

The main aim of the study is to paint a full picture of children in Ireland and how they are developing in the current social, economic and cultural environment. This information will be used to assist in policy formation and in the provision of services which will ensure all children will have the best possible start in life.

<http://www.growingup.ie/>

Irish Qualitative Data Archive

The Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA) is a central access point for qualitative social science data and provides online access to all new qualitative data generated within the [Irish Social Science Platform](#), and to selected existing data. <http://www.iqda.ie/content/welcome-iqda>

North South Child Protection Hub

This hub available for use by child protection professionals (policy makers, practitioners, researchers and educators) in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The Hub brings together research, policy and practice guidance, inspection reports, serious case reviews, court judgements, news articles and other material relevant to child protection published in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland together with material from Great Britain and other countries. Staff in the Health and Social Care Board and Trusts in Northern Ireland and in the Health Service Executive in the Republic of Ireland, will have access to the Hub but it will also be an important resource for all organisations concerned with child protection. <http://www.nscph.com/>

RIAN - Irish Open Access Research Archive(free)

RIAN is the outcome of a sectoral higher education project supported by the Irish Government's 'Strategic Innovation Fund'. Project planning was carried out by the seven Irish university libraries, [DCU](#), [NUIG](#), [NUIM](#), [TCD](#), [UCC](#), [UCD](#), [UL](#) and was supported by the [Irish Universities Association \(IUA\)](#). The project aim is to harvest to one portal the contents of the Institutional Repositories of the seven university libraries, in order to make Irish research material more freely accessible, and to increase the research profiles of individual researchers and their institutions. It is intended to extend the harvest to other Irish research institutions as RIAN develops.

<http://rian.ie/en>

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Resource on Marijuana

Marijuana LIT is a source of fact based information to assist professionals in providing accurate information to those affected by the use of cannabis. There are lots of confusing messages regarding the use of cannabis, the harm it causes and whether it should be legalised or not. This makes it difficult sometimes to determine facts from urban myth or popular opinion. The Addiction Technology Transfer Centre Network Co-ordinating Office in the United States has a user friendly package of resources to assist those who provide services to substance users. It has information and infographics on how cannabis affects the body, using cannabis while pregnant and the potential complications for unborn children and newborns and how cannabis impacts on young people and families. Dr. Thomas E. Freese explains in-depth what is meant by “Medical Marijuana Use”. Who uses it and why, and the difference between medical marijuana and Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) medications. He also discusses the legal issues around the debate on the legal use of marijuana. <http://attcnetwork.org/marijuana/index.aspx#infographic>

The DCYA Children's Participation Hub Database

The DCYA Children's Participation Hub Database is now online. Please click on this link: <http://www.dcy.gov.ie/Participation-Database/default.asp>. The database includes a wide range of national and international practice and research publications and articles on children and young people's participation in decision-making. This database is the first stage of development of the Children and Young People's Participation Hub, which is one of the key actions for DCYA under the *National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making* (2015-2020).

The Hub will become the national centre for excellence on children and young people's participation in decision-making and will be fully functioning by the end of 2016. The Hub will support implementation of the strategy through the provision of information, training and advice for Government departments and agencies and the non-statutory sector. The database was developed on behalf of the DCYA by the Child Law Clinic, University College Cork.

Mindfulness Based Relapse Prevention Audio Recordings

Please click on the links to these MP3s for your personal use or to share with clients.

[Body Scan](#) (female voice)

[Body Scan](#) (male voice)

[SOBER space](#) (female voice)

[SOBER space](#) (male voice)

[Urge Surfing](#) (female voice)

[Brief Sitting Meditation](#) (female voice)

[Brief Sitting Meditation](#) (male voice)

[Sitting - sound meditation](#) (male voice)

[Sitting - breath meditation](#) (male voice)

[Longer Sitting Meditation](#) (female voice)

[Longer Sitting Meditation](#) (male voice)

[Kindness](#) (male voice)

[Kindness](#) (version 2, male voice)

[Mindful Movement](#) (male voice)

[Mindful Stretching](#) (male voice)

[Mindful Walking](#) (male voice)

[Mountain Meditation](#) (female voice)

[Mountain Meditation](#) (male voice)

HRB National Drugs Library

HRB National drugs library resource for social workers and social care workers



The HRB National Drugs Library is an information resource that supports those working to develop the knowledge base around drug, alcohol and tobacco use in Ireland. The library is funded by the Department of Health, and based within the Health Research Board. We have a range of services and resources designed to provide the evidence needed for practice and CPD. In particular, see the social worker page on our online practitioner resource.

<http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/>

You can view Irish and international research and policy material on legal and illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Because these issues affect so many aspects of daily life, we also have publications on related subjects such as poverty, suicide, prisons, homelessness, social care, and health.

Every year we add hundreds of new articles and reports to our library collection. In order to help relieve information overload we have a number of summarised aids, such as Drugnet Ireland, NDC newsletter, and factsheets.

We recognise that those working in health and social care need access to research in a way that suits your busy work life. In order to facilitate this, the NDC librarians, with the wonderful help of advisors working in the social work and social care work areas, have developed a 'practitioner' resource. The homepage <http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/practitioners> has links to a number of subject areas. The 'key Irish data' link and those on the bottom row are relevant to most workers. Clicking on a link will show you recent Irish and international articles and reports on that subject.

We have also developed pages for specific professions including social workers and social care workers. Each of these pages list key documents and have links to subjects of particular interest to that profession.

The resource includes a page called 'doing research' which has links to useful online tools providing help on finding and using information for research. We are interested in collecting and making available local Irish drug or alcohol research done by those working in the area. If you are doing any such research, even a small piece in their organisation, you can submit it to us.

We would like to express a special word of thanks to all of those who helped with the design of the resource. We welcome ongoing feedback with recommendations for key documents, subject areas and anything else workers would like to see in your resource.



CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

Are you a member of a community group,
voluntary organisation, resident's association,
NGO?

Do you need a small piece of research done,
but don't have enough money or resources to

What is this about?

Community-Academic Research Links (CARL) invites non-profit voluntary or community organisations to suggest potential research topics that are important to them and could be *collaboratively* worked on with students as part of their course work. CARL is an initiative in UCC and follows a 30-year European tradition with similar initiatives on-going in some of the highest ranked Universities in Europe. CARL has produced impressive and important pieces of research that have generated interest outside the university walls and the project reports have even had an impact at government policy level.

We are seeking expressions of interest from groups who have ideas for a research project and would like to collaborate on their research idea with a UCC student.

How does it work?

As part of their academic course, students undertake a minor dissertation (between 10,000-30,000 words). In past years, students designed their own study and then contacted groups for permission to collect data. These projects serve to develop the research skills of the students; however, the research may not always answer the needs of community and voluntary groups.

In the CARL model, the students undertake their studies, learn about research methods, data collection, ethics, literature reviews as usual; however, the major difference is that the research projects undertaken are explicitly *studies of issues identified by the community*. These are studies/research which the community identifies as important and need to be undertaken, but they cannot pay for it and/or do not have the expertise themselves to undertake the study at this time.

How long does this take?

The typical time-scale for projects would be a) proposals submitted by groups, b) review of proposals by the CARL advisory group (comprised of UCC staff, students and representatives from the community and voluntary sector) to see which proposals are sufficiently developed and feasible for a student to undertake, and c) students begin their research in May or October.

Projects must be small enough to be completed within the academic year, roughly 9-12 months. Large research projects which require longer than a year to complete may be broken up into one or more smaller one-year projects for multiple students.

Where can I get more information and read sample reports?

Please visit our website to watch brief videos about CARL, to find out what it is like to participate <http://www.ucc.ie/en/scishop/>, or to read past research project reports <http://www.ucc.ie/en/scishop/rr/>

Does it matter what the research topic is about?

Topics that are connected to any discipline at UCC are welcome (science, maths, engineering, social sciences, arts, humanities, business, law, etc.)

What if we have already completed a research project with CARL?

Community groups that are currently involved, or previously completed a project, are welcome to apply again.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Before you make contact ...

1. Is your proposed project small enough to be undertaken as part of a student project?
2. Does your group come under the definition of a not-for-profit community and voluntary group?
3. Do you have a clear idea for a research project that, if undertaken, will have a wider benefit to society?
4. Read some completed research reports on our website.
5. Groups that have funding should consider commissioning research, rather than applying to CARL.
6. Contact Anna to discuss your idea further and to receive a copy of the application form.
7. We are accepting proposals all year round.

CONTACT US

Anna Kingston a.kingston@ucc.ie /



Videos and podcasts

Evicted: The Hidden Homeless – Real Stories (BAFTA WINNING DOCUMENTARY)

This documentary from the UK echoes the hidden homeless families found here in Ireland. The impact on families and children are devastating. The children in particular face isolation, social exclusion and bullying; they may also miss months of schooling. The Film follows three girls and their families who have endured the emotional trauma of being thrown out of their homes. With nowhere to go they are absorbed into the hidden world of bed and breakfasts, hotels, safe houses and temporary accommodation. With all of their belongings locked away in storage the girls are literally left with the clothes they stand in. [Evicted: The Hidden Homeless \(Documentary\)](#)

Self-Esteem

To have sound levels of self-esteem is one of the gateways to happiness, but achieving it has very little to do with the progress of our careers. This is one of the many insightful, short videos from **The School of Life**, which is both a You Tube channel and a real-life school (for adults) devoted to emotional education. The School of Life explores the sort of questions never taught enough about at regular school or college and is devoted to emotional education. [Self-Esteem by The School of Life](#)

Music Changes Lives, President of Ireland

A 12-minute video of the President Michael D. Higgins in conversation with the Musical Youth Foundation children's charity two years ago about the power of music and music education. Among topics discussed were his earliest musical memories, stand-out concerts and his desire to see musical instruments made available to every child in Ireland. His aspiration is of particular relevance now with the government's publication of the Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022, stating in policy its commitment to the facilitation of "an ecosystem of creativity". [Music Changes Lives-President Michael D. Higgins](#)

Foster families - In conversation with Alyson Rees

Foster families work the well-being of children in their care often with little recognition. In this podcast, Alyson Rees talks about her research with children and their foster families from a strengths perspective. Alyson Rees has worked in social care in the UK since 1981 when she started working in a night shelter. Having qualified as a social worker in 1986, she worked for 16 years as a probation officer before joining a domestic violence unit running groups for male perpetrators, female survivors and children who had witnessed abuse. She has been at Cardiff University for the past 15 years teaching both social work students and practice educators and completed her PhD in 2009. Her research interests centre on foster care, adoption, child neglect, domestic abuse, gender, care social work supervision. Currently she is involved in a foster care research project involving skills groups and mentoring, and a looked after children and education study. [Foster Families on Podsocs](#)

Domestic violence in child welfare - In conversation with David Mandel

The "Safe and Together" model is about domestic violence in child welfare contexts. David Mandel talks about this model and his work with professionals in the field. David Mandel (MA, LPC) has been working in the domestic violence field for 25 years. His international training and consulting focuses on improving systems' responses to domestic violence when children are involved, and responsible fatherhood. He developed the Safe and Together model to improve case practice and cross system collaboration in domestic violence cases involving children, and the Continuum of Practice Framework for promoting the development of domestic violence informed child welfare systems. [DV in Child Welfare](#)

Social stories creator and library

An amazing app for easily creating, sharing and printing educational social stories, visual schedules, and beautiful memories.

This is a very valuable tool for any teacher, SLP, OT, direct care staff or parent.

Children with special needs often need more direct instruction of social skills. Teaching social skills to any child may be easier and less stressful when visual supports, like social stories are used. The social stories found in this app explain accurate social information and ensures that your child will know what to expect in different situations.

[Saving Stories Creator for iOS](#)



Evernote

Evernote gives you the tools you need to keep your work effortlessly organised:

- Write, collect and capture ideas as searchable notes, notebooks, checklists and to-do lists
- Take notes in a variety of formats, including: text, sketches, photos, audio, video, PDFs, web clippings and more
- Use the camera to effortlessly scan, digitise, and organise your paper documents, business cards, handwritten notes and drawings
- Use Evernote as a digital notepad and easy-to-format word processor for all your thoughts as they come.

[Evernote for iOS](#)

[Evernote for Android](#)



Social media and podcasts

Twitter

@AgEisteacht – A Cork-based training organisation in operation since 2001 whose mission is to empower front-line workers through training.

@IrishRefugeeCo – The Irish Refugee Council (IRC) is a membership-based, non-governmental organisation which advocates with asylum seekers & refugees for their rights.

@UCDSocialPWJ – Tweeting from the School of Social Policy, Social Work & Social Justice, University College Dublin. RT are not endorsements.

@IrishResearch – Twitter account of the Irish Research Council, #LoveIrishResearch aims to engage the public in the amazing work being conducted by Irish researchers and highlight their achievements across multiple fields.

@JohnSharryIRL – Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist, author on [#MentalHealth](#) [#Parenting](#) [#SolutionFocusedTherapy](#) [#Sustainability](#) Co-founder [@Parents_Plus](#), Columnist [@IrishTimes](#)

@GdnSocialCare - Analysis & discussion for #socialcare_professionals.

YouTube

My Life in Numbers by Empowering Young People in Care (EPIC). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POWlgyWtEG0>

IASW World Social Work Day - Link to Presentations

<https://iasw.ie/event.aspx?contentid=7561>

About Practice Links

Practice Links is a free e-publication for practitioners working in Irish social services, voluntary and non-governmental sectors. *Practice Links* was created to help practitioners in these areas to keep up-to-date with new publications, conferences and continuing professional development opportunities. *Practice Links* is published every other month in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file). Distribution is by email, Twitter and on the *Practice Links* and CORA websites <http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/>.

Submissions

Submission for publication should be received two weeks prior to the next publication date. Please forward submissions by email to k.burns@ucc.ie.

Who are we?

Practice Links is a publication of the Social Work Development Unit, School of Applied Social Studies, University College Cork, Ireland. <http://appsoc.ucc.ie>

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